

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

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PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /082 W

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R 150021Z APR 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4572

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

DOD WASHDC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

DOD FOR DIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MOPS CH TW

SUBJ: TEN AMNESTIED "KMT WAR CRIMINALS" LEAVE CHINA FOR TAIWAN

REF: HONG KONG 3866

SUMMARY: AS PART OF PEKING'S PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF TAIWAN
OFFENSIVE TEN RECENTLY- AMNESTIED "KMT WAR CRIMINALS" ARE IN
HONG KONG AWAITING POSSIBLE ENTRY INTO TAIWAN. THE CONSIDERABLE
FANFARE AND PUBLICITY ACCOMPANYING THIS PRC MOVE SUGGESTS PEKING
HOPES TAIPEI WILL FEEL COMPELLED TO RESPOND IN A POSITIVE MANNER
TO THIS LATEST PRC PLOY. END SUMMARY

1. CHINA HAS PUSHED IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS RECENT "PEACEFUL RE-
UNIFICATION WITH TAIWAN" OFFENSIVE A STEP FOWRARD WITH THE UN-
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PRECEDENTED SPECIFIC APPROVAL FOR TEN RECENTLY-AMNESTIED "KMT

WAR CRIMINALS" TO TRAVEL TO TAIWAN. A BRIEF NCNA NEWS ITEM OF APRIL 13 REPORTED THAT, " IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT OF CHAIRMAN MAO'S INSTRUCTION" AND THE RECENT DECISION OF THE NPC STANDING COMMITTEE, APPROVAL WAS GRANTED TEN AMNESTIED MEN. THE PRC HAS PROVIDED THE TEN WITH TRAVEL FUNDS AS WELL AS RE-ENTRY PERMITS IN CASE ANY WISH TO RETURN TO CHINA. THE MEN ARRIVED IN HONG KONG AT NOON TODAY.

2. THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT (HKG) ASSISTANT POLAD TOLD A CONGEN OFFICER THAT LOCAL PRC REPS HAD NOT INFORMED HKG OFFICIALS BEFOREHAND ABOUT THE ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG OF THE TEN. HE NOTED THATSINCE THE TEN HAVE PRC TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, THEY ARE FREE TO TRAVEL ONWARD AS FAR AS THE HKG IS CONCERNED. THE MAIN BRITISH WORRY IS THAT THEY NOT REMAIN LONG IN HONG KONG TO BECOME A BONE OF CONTENTION BETWEEN LOCAL PRO-PEKING AND PRO-TAIPEI FACTIONS. MEANWHILE HONG KONG PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE MATTER IS RUNNING HIGH, A S EVIDENCE BY FACT THAT ABOUT 50 JOURNALISTS COVERED THE ARRIVAL OF THE TEN AT THE LOWU BORDER.

3. A UPI DESPATCH FROM TAIPEI STATING THAT TAIWAN AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT OPPOSE THE GROUP'S ENTRY IF THEY UNDERGO NORMAL APPLI- CATION PROCEDURES IN HONG KONG WAS INCLUDED AMONG THE FRONTPAGE PUBLICITY THE LOCAL PRC-OWNED PRESS ACCORDED THE GROUP THIS MORNING. BUT, ACCORDING TO A WELL INFORMED JOURNALIST, LOCAL KMT REPS HAVE REACTED CAUTIOUSLY AND HAVE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE MATTER. THEY HAVE ENVE REFUSED TO RESPOND TO QUERIES FROM NEWSMEN AS TO WHERE THE RELEASEED COULD APPLY FOR TAIWAN ENTRY PERMITS. ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE, EDDIE TSENG WOULD NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY WHETHER A RECENT REPORT THAT TAIWAN WOULD WELCOM AMNESTIED MEN REFLECTED THE OFFICIAL ROC POSITION. INSTEAD, TSENG TOOK ISSUE WITH THIS LOCAL NEWS STORY. DENYING THAT HE WAS THE SOURCE OF THE REPORT (HONG KONG 3005).

4. THE PRC HAS ACCORDED THE GROUP'S DEPARTURE CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION AND PUBLICITY INCLUDING A LIBERAL SPRINKLING OF FAVORABLE COMMENT BY THE RELEASEES ON TREATMENT AND LIFE IN THE PRC. PRIOR TO LEAVING PEKING, UNITED FRONT PERSONNEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOSTED A BANQUET WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY PROMINENT EX-KMT OFFICIALS LIVING ON THE MAINLAND. A SPECIAL PLANE TRANSPORTED THE GROUP TO CANTON WHERE THEY WERE AGAIN FETED AND MET WITH HONG KONG AND CANTON JOURNALISTS.

5. BOTH MAJOR PRC-OWNED NEWSPAPERS IN HONG KONG DEVOTED VIRTUAL- LY THE ENTIRE FRONT-PAGE OF TODAY'S PAPERS TO STORIES OF THE GROUP'S PRE-CHINA DEPARTURE ACTIVITEIES, THEIR LIFE IN CHINA,

JOY UPON HEARING NEWS THAT TAWIAN WILL WELCOME THEM AND ANTI-CIPIATED REUNIONS WITH RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN TAIWAN.IT ALSO CITED THEIR REMARKS THAT THE COMMUNISTS GOVERNMENT DOES AS IT SAYS. EXPLOITATING THE DEPARTURE TO THE FULLEST, BOTH NEWSPAPERS' EDITORIAL FOCUS WAS ALSO ON THE MEN, THEIR STATEMENTS THAT THE PRC LIVES UP TO ITS WORD AND CHINA'S WELCOME TO THOSE WHO MIGHT CHOOSE TO RETURN TO THE MAINLAND.

6. BELOW ARE NEMES AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE REGARDING THE MEN.

(A) WANG PING YUEH (3769/4426/6885) - FORMER KMT LT. GEN.

AND COMMANDER OF 51ST CORPS. HAS WIFE AND FAMILY IN TAIWAN. PROMINENTLY FEATURES IN RECENT PROPAGANDA CONCERNING RELEASEES. RECENTLY GAVE TWO MINUTE BROADCAST TALK DURING WHICH HE DECLARED WILLINGNESS TO DEIDICATE LIFE TO COMMUNIST PARTY AND CONTRIBUTE TO UNIFICATION OF MOTHERLAND AND LIBERATION OF TAIWAN.

(B) CHEN SHIH-CHANG (7115/1102/4545) - FORMER KMT LT.

GEN. AND COMMANDER OF 25 TH CORPS. HAS FAMILY ON TAIWAN.

(C) TSAI SHENG-SAN (5591/4164/0005) - FORMER COM-

MANDER KMT YOUTH NATIONAL SALVATION CORPS. HAS ONLY COL-LEAGUES AND ROMER STUDENTS ON TAIWAN. ONCE WORKED FOR CHIANG CHING-KUO AT TIME CHIANG IN CHARGE OF SOUTHERN KIANGSI REGION, ACCORDING TO SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (APRIL 14).

(D) CHOU YANG-HAO (0719/9502/3185) - FOMER KMT MAJOR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE SW SPECIAL DISTRICT OF THE INVESTIGATION AND STATISTICS BUREAU (BIS)

(E)TUAN KO-WEN (3679/7189/3099) - FORMER KMT MAJOR, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF CHEKIANG PROVINCE GARRISON.

(G) CHANG HAI-SHANG (1728/3189/3099) - FORMER KMT COLONEL OF 612 TH REGIMENT, 204TH DIVISION OF THE KMT YOUTH ARMY

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(H) YANG NAN-TSUN (2799/0589/6722) - FORMER KMT COLONEL OF 490TH REGIMENT, 150TH DIVISION, 44TH CORPS.

(8) CHANG TIEH-SHIH (1728/6993/4258) - FORMER KMT COLONEL OF 68TH POLITICAL WORK DEPARTMENT

(J) CHAO I-HSUEH (6392/0001/7185) -FFORMER KMT COLONEL OF THE 841ST REGIMENT, 281ST DIVISION, 96TH COR.

7. COMMENT. DEPARTURE OF THE MEN FROM CHINA SO SOON AFTER THE IR AMNESTY INDICATES PEKING'S INTEITION TO EXPLIIT TO THE FULLEST FAVORABLE PPUBLICITYDERIVED FROM ITS RECENT PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION STARTEGY VI-A-VIS TAIWAN AND REINFORCES INDI-CATIONS THAT PEKING HAD FOREKNOWLEDGE THAT AT LEAST CERTAIN OF THOSE AMNESTIED WOULD SEEK ENTRY TO TAIWAN (HONG KONG 3004). POSITIVE STATEMENTS AND REPORTS ON LIFE IN CHINA BY SOME OF

THE GROUP AND PARTICULARLY WANG'S EXPRESSED INTENTION TO SUPPORT
THE PRC PEACEFUL POLICY (PEKING BROADCAST OF MARCH 31) WILL TEND
TO MAKE THE MEN EVEN MORE SUSPECT IN THE EYES OF TAIWAN AUTHORI-
TIES . NEVERTHELESS PEKING PROBABLY HOPES TAIWAN WILL FEEL
COMPELLED BY ALL THE PUBLICITY TO RESPOND IN A POSITIVE MANNER
TO THIS PRC PLOY.
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